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Supercomputer Center, PolymerOhio nab fed grant

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The Ohio Supercomputer Center and a local manufacturing promoter are working with a \$355,000 federal grant to help the state's polymer industry improve its manufacturing pipeline.

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, visited the Supercomputer Center Friday to announce the grant, one of 22 distributed nationwide from the U.S. Department of Commerce. The center and PolymerOhio of Westerville, a group that works to advance the state's multibillion-dollar polymer industry, have proposed a modeling and simulation program for companies to help them boost manufacturing capabilities.

The polymer industry includes manufacturers that turn out products used in plastics, adhesives, paints, detergents and textiles.

The ultimate goal of the program, Brown's office said, is to remove technical barriers, cut costs and pinpoint training needed for new technologies.